We come within our awful banks again [4]
And knit our powers to the arm of peace.
WEST. This will I show the general.
Please you, lords.
In sight of both our battles we may meet:

sense: " auctoritate *comignatce* literse—. *Cicero pro Cluentio*"
It has this signification again in this play:
" And (God *consigning to* my good *intents)*
" No prince nor peer." &c.
Again, in King Henry V.:
"e And take with you free power to ratify,
** Augment or alter, as your wisdoms best
" Shall see advantageable for our dignity,
" Any thing in or out of our demands ;
*' And we'll *consign* thereto.'*
Again, ibid.: " It were, my lord, a hard condition for a maid to *consign to*—.'* *Confin d,* in my apprehension, is unintelligible.
Supposing these copies to have been made by the ear, and one to have transcribed while another read, the mistake might easily have happened, for *consigned* and *cousin* d* are, in sound, undistinguishable: and when the compositor found the latter word in the manuscript, he would naturally print *confined,* instead of a word that has no existence.
Dr. Johnson proposed the reading that I have adopted, but explains the word differently. The examples above quoted show, I think, that the explication of this word already given is the true one. MALONE.
Though I have followed Mr. Malone's example by admitting Dr. Johnson's conjecture, the notes of various commentators are left before the reader, to whose judgment they are submitted.
STEEVENS.
4 We come within our AWFUL banks again,]
Awful banks are the proper limits of reverence. JOHNSON.
So, in The Two Gentlemen of Verona:
" From the society of *awftd* men.[1]* STEEVENS.
It is also used in the same sense in Pericles :
" A better prince and benign lord——
** Prove *awfulboih* in deed and word.** M. MASON.
Dr. Warburton reads *lawful.* We have *awful* in the last Act of this play:
** To pluck down justice from her *awful* bench."
Here it certainly means *inspiring awe.* If *awful banks* be right, the words must mean *due and orderly limits.* MALONE.